

In response to the Office Action dated December 30, 2002 (Paper No. 57), finally rejecting claims 2-4, 12, 13, 15-21 and 27, please amend the above-identified U.S. Patent application as follows:

In the Claims

Claim 1 (Canceled)

Claim 2 (Previously amended): The peptide of claim 27 wherein aa⁸⁰ is I.

Claim 3 (Previously amended): The peptide of claim 27 wherein at least one of the amino acids is the D-isomer.

Claim 4 (Previously amended): The peptide of claim 3 wherein all of the amino acids are the D-isomer.

Claims 5-11 (Canceled)

Claim 12 (Previously amended): The peptide of claim 27 wherein aa⁸² is L.

Claim 13 (Previously amended): The peptide of claim 27 wherein aa⁸³ is R.

Claim 14 (Canceled)

Claim 15 (Currently amended): The peptide of claim 27 A peptide dimer that inhibits cytotoxicity wherein said peptide dimer comprises RIALRYYRLAIR (SEQ ID NO:40), YRLAIRRIALRY (SEQ ID NO:36), RIALRYRILLRY (SEQ ID NO:41) or YRLLIRYRLAIR (SEQ ID NO:42).

Claim 16 (Previously amended): The peptide of claim 27 which is YRLAIRLNERRENRLIALRY (SEQ ID NO:26) or YRLAIRLNERYRLAIRLNER (SEQ ID NO:31).

Claim 17 (Currently amended): The peptide of claim 27 The peptide dimer of claim 15 which is YRLAIRRIALRY (SEQ ID NO:36).

Claim 18 (Previously amended): A method for extending the period of acceptance by a recipient of a transplant from an allogenic or xenogenic MHC donor, said method comprising:

administering to said donor in accordance with a therapeutically effective regimen and in an amount effective to extend the period of acceptance of said transplant, the peptide of claim 27; whereby the period of acceptance of said transplant is extended.

Claim 19 (Previously amended): The method of claim 18, wherein said compound is administered in combination with a subtherapeutic dosage of an immunosuppressant, and said period of acceptance is extended as compared to the period which would have resulted from the administering of said immunosuppressant as said subtherapeutic dosage in the absence of said peptide.

Claim 20 (Previously amended): A composition comprising the peptide of claim 27 and a subtherapeutic dosage of an immunosuppressant, together in an amount sufficient to inhibit transplant rejection in a mammal, in a physiologically acceptable medium.

Claim 21 (Previously amended): The peptide-type compound of claim 27 which is a peptide and wherein all the amino acid residues in said peptide are gene-encoded.

Claims 22-26 (Canceled)

Claim 27 (Currently amended): A peptide dimer that inhibits cytotoxicity and consists of 12 up to 60 amino acids, and has the comprises one of the following structuressequences:

R E aa⁷⁷ L R aa⁸⁰⁻⁸³ Y (I) (SEQ ID NO:38) or

Y aa⁸³⁻⁸⁰ R L aa⁷⁷ E R (II) (SEQ ID NO:39), and

N-terminal acylated and/or C-terminal amidated or esterified forms;
wherein:

aa⁷⁷ is D, S or N;

aa⁸⁰ is I or N;

aa⁸¹ is A or L;

aa⁸² is R or L;

aa⁸³ is G or R.